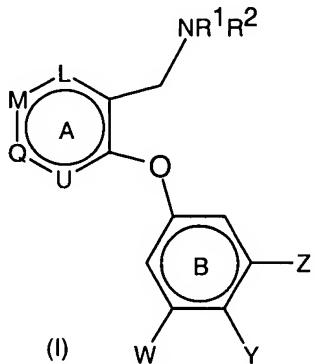


IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A compound of general formula (I), pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates or polymorphs thereof;



wherein;

L and U, which may be the same or different, are -N-, -N⁺(-O⁻)- or -C(H)-;

M and Q, which may be the same or different, are -N-, -N⁺(-O⁻)- or -C(R⁴)-;

wherein ring A contains 1 or 2 nitrogen atom atoms, and wherein when L, U, M or Q is N⁺(-O⁻), ring A contains no other nitrogen atom;

R¹ and R², which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl,

(CH₂)_m(C₃₋₆cycloalkyl) wherein m = 0, 1, 2 or 3, or R¹ and R²

together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form an azetidine ring;

W, Y and Z, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, halogen,

C₁₋₆alkyl, CF₃, OCF₃, C₁₋₄alkylthio or C₁₋₄alkoxy; or Y and Z are

linked so that, together with the interconnecting atoms, Y and Z

form a fused 5 to 7-membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring

which may be saturated, unsaturated or aromatic, and wherein

when Y and Z form a heterocyclic ring, in addition to carbon atoms, the linkage contains one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; and wherein W, Y and Z are not all hydrogen;

and

each R⁴ is independently:

A-X, wherein A = -(CH₂)_p- where p is 0, 1 or 2; X is hydrogen, CONR⁶R⁷, SO₂NR⁶R⁷, SO₂NHC(=O)R⁶, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkoxy, NR⁸SO₂R⁹, NO₂, NR⁶R¹¹, CN, CO₂R¹⁰, SR¹⁰, S(O)R⁹ or SO₂R¹⁰; R⁶, R⁷, R⁸ and R¹⁰ which may be the same or different, are hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl optionally substituted independently by one or more R¹²; R⁹ is C₁₋₆alkyl optionally substituted independently by one or more R¹²; R¹¹ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl optionally substituted independently by one or more R¹², C(O)R⁶, CO₂R⁹, C(O)NHR⁶ or SO₂NR⁶R⁷; R¹² is fluoro, hydroxy, CO₂H, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, NH₂, CONH₂, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonyl or a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O optionally substituted independently by one or more R¹³; or R⁶ and R⁷, together with the nitrogen to which they are attached, form a 4-, 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally substituted independently by one or more R¹³; or a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O, optionally substituted independently by one or more R¹³; wherein R¹³ is hydroxy, C_{1-C₄}alkoxy, fluoro, C_{1-C₆}alkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, -NH₂, -NH(C_{1-C₆}alkyl) or -N(C_{1-C₆}alkyl)₂; or ~~when both M and Q are CR⁴, the R⁴ groups are linked so that together with the interconnecting atoms, the R⁴ groups form a fused 5-to-7-membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring which may be saturated, unsaturated or aromatic.~~

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 2 1 wherein L is -C(H)-.

4. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ and R², which may be the same or different, are hydrogen or C₁-C₆alkyl, or R¹ and R², together with the nitrogen to which they are attached, form an azetidine ring.
5. (Original) A compound according claim 1 wherein R¹ is methyl and R² is hydrogen or methyl, or R¹ and R², together with the nitrogen to which they are attached, form an azetidine ring.
6. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is methyl and R² is hydrogen or methyl.
7. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein W is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy or halogen.
8. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein W is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; and Y and Z, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, CF₃, OCF₃, methylthio, ethylthio, methoxy, ethoxy, chloro, fluoro or bromo; or Y and Z are linked so that, together with the interconnecting atoms, Y and Z form a fused 5 to 7-membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring which may be saturated, unsaturated or aromatic, and wherein when Y and Z form a heterocyclic ring, in addition to carbon atoms, the linkage contains one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; wherein W, Y and Z are not all hydrogen.
9. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein W is hydrogen; and Y and Z, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, methyl, ethyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methoxy or ethoxy; or Y and Z are linked so that, together with the interconnecting atoms, Z and Y form a

fused 5 to 7-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or more sulfur atoms; wherein Y and Z are not both hydrogen.

10. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein when Y and Z are linked so that, together with the interconnecting atoms, Z and Y form a fused 5 to 7-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or more sulfur atoms, the linkages forming the fused ring are -S(CH₂)₂- , -CH₂S-CH₂- or -S(CH₂)₂O- wherein either end of these linkages correspond to either group Y or Z.
11. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein, when present, each R⁴ is independently -(CH₂)_p-X, where p is 0, 1 or 2; X is hydrogen, CONR⁶R⁷, SO₂NR⁶R⁷, SO₂NH(C=O)R⁶, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkoxy, NR⁸SO₂R⁹, NO₂, NR⁶R¹¹, CN, CO₂R¹⁰, SR¹⁰, S(O)R⁹ or SO₂R¹⁰; wherein R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R¹⁰ or R¹¹, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl; and R⁹ is C₁₋₆alkyl.
12. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein, when present each R⁴ is independently -(CH₂)_p-X, where p is 0 or 1; X is hydrogen, CONR⁶R⁷, SO₂NR⁶R⁷, NR⁸SO₂R⁹, hydroxy or NR⁶R¹¹; wherein R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, or R¹¹, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl; and R⁹ is C₁₋₆alkyl.
13. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from:
N-methyl-*N*-({4-[4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl}methyl)amine,
N-{[4-(2,3-dihydro-1-benzothien-5-yloxy)-3-pyridinyl]methyl}-*N*-methylamine,
N-({4-[3-chloro-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl}methyl)-*N*-methylamine,
N-methyl-*N*-({3-[4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-4-pyridinyl}methyl)amine,

N-methyl-*N*-(*{*3-[3-methyl-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-4-pyridinyl}-methyl)amine,
N-{[4-(2,3-Dihydro-1,4-benzoxathiin-7-yloxy)-6-methyl-3-pyridinyl]methyl}-*N*-methylamine,
N-methyl-*N*-(*{*6-methyl-4-[3-methyl-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl}methyl)amine,
N-{[4-[3-chloro-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl]methyl}-*N,N*-dimethylamine,
N-{[4-[3-fluoro-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl]methyl}-*N,N*-dimethylamine,
N,N-dimethyl-*N*-(*{*3-[4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-4-pyridinyl}methyl)amine,
N-{[4-(2,3-dihydro-1-benzothien-5-yloxy)-3-pyridinyl]methyl}-*N,N*-dimethylamine,
N-{[4-[3-Methoxy-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl]methyl}-*N,N*-dimethylamine,
N,N-dimethyl-*N*-(*{*4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl}methyl)amine,
N,N-dimethyl-*N*-(*{*4-[4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl}methyl)amine,
and *N,N*-dimethyl-*N*-(*{*4-[3-methyl-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl}methyl)amine.

14. (Original) A composition comprising a compound of formula (I) of any one of claims 1-13, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates or polymorphs thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.
15. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic method of treating or preventing premature ejaculation comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) of any one of claims 1-13, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or polymorph thereof to a subject having a need of treatment or prevention of premature ejaculation ~~a disorder in which the regulation of monoamine transporter function is implicated.~~
16. (Cancelled)
17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)
19. (New Claim) The compound N-methyl-N-(3-[3-methyl-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-4-pyridinyl)-methyl)amine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
20. (New Claim) The tartrate salt of the compound of claim 19.
21. (New Claim) The compound N-methyl-N-(3-[4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-4-pyridinyl)-methyl)amine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
22. (New Claim) The tartrate salt of the compound of claim 21.